

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

1 A method for combining transfer functions with predetermined key creation. In one
2 embodiment, digital information, including a digital sample and format information, is protected
3 by identifying and encoding a portion of the format information. Encoded digital information,
4 including the digital sample and the encoded format information, is generated to protect the
5 original digital information. In another embodiment, a digital signal, including digital samples in
6 a file format having an inherent granularity, is protected by creating a predetermined key. The
7 predetermined key is comprised of a transfer function-based mask set to manipulate data at the
8 inherent granularity of the file format of the underlying digitized samples.